

22nd December 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's our last day of term today and we have been doing something very different. In my final assembly of the year, this morning, I handed out prizes to six very, very special students. A few weeks ago I asked my colleagues to nominate two students who really stand out from the crowd. From all those submissions I chose six students who capture everything that we seek amongst all of our youngsters.

Each winner was given two prizes; one for them and one for their family. Each student received an Amazon Fire tablet and their family have been given a £50 voucher for a meal at *Frankie & Benny's*. As staff we have raised this money ourselves and we want to put the spotlight on some very special students and also enable them to celebrate with their family during the holiday. We can't always do this but we can this year. And so, congratulations to Lauren Biddle (Year 7), Molly Ann Dean (Year 8), Andrew Harper (Year 9), Georgia Hadley (Year 10), Noor Agha (Year 11) and Tyler Westwood (Sixth Form).



These students' grades are not the thing we celebrated today. It was their character and their improvements over time that caught the attention of my colleagues and their families can be rightly proud of their children. As the Christmas holiday has now begun we must all turn our attention to our own family and friends and remind them of how special and important they are to us. However, if you would like to read the nominations for these children then please move on to page 2 and, like me, feel a genuine sense of pride and humility.

On behalf of us all here at Colmers, have a really happy and restful break and we'll see your children back first thing on Monday 8th January 2018.

Merry Christmas and a happy new year!

Yours sincerely,

Barry Doherty
Headteacher



HEADTEACHER
Mr Barry Doherty

www.colmers.bham.sch.uk

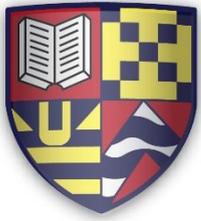
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Colmers Special Christmas Assembly 2017 Winners:

“Not a day has gone by since September that she hasn’t been thoughtful, generous and kind. Her smile is infectious and she has made *The Bridge* the best place to work in. She is everything we want in a Colmers student.”

“She is so resilient. Even though she might occasionally lack some self-confidence she isn’t afraid to contribute to class discussion. She listens well to feedback and acts upon it accordingly. She always tries her best and isn’t afraid to challenge herself. She always says hello to me around school and greets me with a smile.” Another colleague wrote, “When my baby daughter grows up I’d like her to turn out like Molly. She’s a perfect kid.”

“He is an all-round good egg. In form he puts himself forward for any roles with responsibility. He’s always got a smile on his face. He’s polite and helpful. He was form rep last year and didn’t miss a meeting. He takes part and has represented the school on numerous occasions and grabs every opportunity he can. He really shone on the Snowdonia trip and demonstrated a natural ability, this was spotted by all teachers and instructors.”

“She is a very hard-working student. I really enjoyed teaching her last year; although I don’t teach her this year, I know she continues to work well in my subject. She is always polite and she tries her best in all that she does. She still says, “Hello!” and asks how I am when we pass each other. It’s the little things that make the difference.”

“He is a very hardworking pupil who has come a very, very long way. He is always focused and doesn’t allow anyone to distract him in my lessons. He is brilliant, a role model to others. English is his second language, but that hasn’t affected his drive in my subject. He is always the first to complete high standard work and lets me know when I need to support him.”

“He is a person who engages with life; he contributes to every lesson, sixth form life and his questioning nature encourages thought and discussion.” Another colleague wrote, “I had to ask someone who this lad is because I have never taught him but every time I see him around school he is ALWAYS smiling, bouncing along and clearly just someone who is happy to be alive and making the most of his opportunities. I hope I appear like him to other people!” Whilst a third colleague wrote, “He is one of the most inquisitive and courageous thinkers I have known. He doesn’t worry about winning every argument, he just wants an argument to test out ideas and thoughts. He’s definitely a young Marxist but that does not stop him thinking the unthought-of and allowing his ideas to go to places that others might not think of going. Like his mind, he’s going places.”



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